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**RESPONSE TO
RESTRICTION
REQUIREMENT**

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RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

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IN THE CLAIMS

2. (Previously Amended) A telecommunications system with a multi-carrier transmission scheme that dynamically allocates bandwidth among a plurality of service units, the system comprising:

a head end that transmits data over a transmission medium to the service units, the head end comprising a modem circuit for narrow band transmission in at least one transmission channel, each transmission channel including a number of subbands having a number of payload channels and a control channel in each subband;

a control circuit in the head end that assigns each service unit to a subband for transmission and receipt of data; and

the control circuit is further operable to allocate a payload channel to a service unit in response to a request for a service unit.

3. (Previously Amended) The system of claim 2, wherein the control circuit is operable assign a number of service units to each subband for selective use of the payload channels in the subband by the service units so as to increase the number of service units that can be coupled to the system.

4. (Previously Amended) The system of claim 2, wherein the transmission medium comprises a hybrid fiber-coax telecommunications system.